

Spanish



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Exam Board

AQA A Level Spanish

Why study Spanish?

Studying Spanish is fun and rewarding. Lessons focus primarily on communication and are very interactive. Our exam results are well above the national average, so with commitment and hard work, you will do well. Spanish A Level offers so many possibilities. Did you know that Spanish is spoken by 500 million people and is the second largest native language in the world? In three generations, 10% of the world population will be able to communicate in Spanish.

Course Outline

The courses encourage students to:

- Communicate confidently in Spanish both through the spoken and written word.
- Develop insights into the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of countries where Spanish is spoken.

The themes covered in Year 12 include:

- Aspects of Hispanic Society – modern and traditional values; cyberspace; equal rights.
- Artistic Culture in the Hispanic World – modern day idols; Spanish regional identity; cultural heritage or cultural landscape.

The themes covered in Year 13 include:

- Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society – immigration; racism; integration.
- Aspects of Political Life in the Hispanic World – today's youth, tomorrow's citizens; monarchies, republics and dictatorships; popular movements.

Assessment

The examinations are designed to develop the 4 skills of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing and are divided into 3 components which test a mixture of these skills. Candidates must take all 3 components units:

Component 1: Speaking

The speaking exam is 30% of the qualification. Learners are not permitted to use dictionaries in any part of the assessment.

- Task 1 - (a) Presentation of independent research project; (b) Discussion on the content of the research project.

Where are they now?

Recent students of Spanish at CRGS have gone on to study:

- Contemporary Chinese Studies with International Relations (*Nottingham*)
- Italian/Japanese, 4 Years (*Cardiff*)
- Law with Spanish (*Liverpool*)
- Management & Spanish Studies (*Lancaster*)
- Medicine (*Nottingham*)
- Modern Languages and Cultures (*Durham*)
- Modern Language Studies (*Nottingham*)
- Politics & Spanish, 4 Years (*Bristol*)
- Spanish & Economics (*Strathclyde*)
- Spanish, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies (*Essex*)



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- Task 2 - Discussion based on a stimulus card relating to one of the themes studied.
- The assessment is conducted by a visiting examiner.

Component 2: Listening, Reading and Translation

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes, 50% of qualification. Learners are not permitted to use dictionaries in any part of the assessment.

- Section A: Listening exam
- Section B: Reading exam
- Section C: Translation – from Spanish into English and English into Spanish

Component 3: Critical and analytical response in writing (closed-book)

- Written examination: 2 hours, 20% of qualification. Learners are not permitted to use dictionaries in any part of the assessment.
- Two essays – one based on a literary work and the second on an additional literary work or film from the AQA prescribed list.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is any previous knowledge required to study this subject?

Students should have at least Grade 6 in GCSE Spanish.

Students are required to meet the General Entry Requirement of a minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade 6 with at least GCSE grade 4 in English Language and Maths.

Q. What opportunities are there for Extended Learning?

Students have the opportunity to take part in a Spanish work experience placement towards the end of Year 12.

Q. What facilities are there?

Students have access to an online text book and laptops with headphones in the MFL rooms and there is also a Spanish Language Assistant whose role is to assist pupils with developing their spoken Spanish. Students will spend one hour a week with the assistant in small groups to help prepare for the Speaking exam.

Exam Board Specification

AQA A Level Spanish (7692) www.aqa.org.uk